



Summer Toddler News



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Hello and welcome to the summer edition of Toddler News. This term during our visits to your groups, we will be showing you how to provide activities for little or no cost. Continuing this theme we are arranging a training session later this term on using scrap as a play resource. May we also wish Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating the end of Ramadan next month.

Have a wonderful summer, Susan, Liz and Leanne

What's in this edition?

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Bradford Libraries Rhyme Challenge.

As this issue of Toddler News goes to press the winners and runners up will have been selected for this year's awards. Well done to all the groups that took part and embraced this year's challenge. This year's celebration will take place at City Hall on Tuesday 7th July. Look out for your invitation to this prestigious event. To see what it's all about check out our website www.bufa.org.uk/news.htm for an account of last year's event.

Communication Grant

Over the last five years we have had a number of successful bids accepted from this grant. These have benefitted over 100 Toddler groups across the district. This year we have been lucky to secure funding yet again from this grant and this has enabled us to provide 20 Toddler groups from ECS targeted areas with books and resources to enhance their book corners. We were also able to provide these groups with resources to start a home loan book scheme in their groups. Due to the success

of these projects we were asked to attend ECS" I'm under 3 talk to me," conference which took place on the 6th and 7th March to showcase the results of these projects.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Fire drill practice

Last term we completed our annual Health and Safety check in community groups. While you are all very good at keeping fire exits clear and displaying fire drill procedures, some groups still seem reluctant to carry out the drills on a termly basis. If a fire should happen in your building, knowing what to do and where to go saves seconds and these are very important when getting everyone out safely!

Last term one group who decided to have a drill during my visit, realised the importance of regular drills when it quickly became apparent that there were some problems evacuating the building safely. Luckily it was just a practice so they have now addressed these issues as a group. You need to warn parent/carers when they arrive that a drill will take place during the session and check they have seen the procedures for evacuation. It will only take up a few minutes of group time and could save lives! If you need any further help

with this please contact your BUFA development worker who will be happy to support you and your parents on this important area of group safety

ACTIVITIES

Eid and Ramadan

This term will see many of your parents celebrating these two important dates in the Muslim calendar. The month of Ramadan is significant to Muslims because it was when the Qur'an was revealed and obviously it is the month of fasting. It is the sighting of the crescent moon that actually signals the beginning and end of Ramadan. The celebration that follows the month of Ramadan is called Eid-ul-fitr. (Eid means recurring happiness or festivity). Ramadan for Muslims is a whole month of fasting leading up to three days of serious celebrating. They give money to the needy, exchange gifts, children get new outfits, and they celebrate together by gathering for morning prayers at the Mosque.

Star and Crescent Moon Mobile



Cut the shapes out of card and let the children stick foil and glitter onto them. Using a hole punch put a hole in both shapes, thread string through the holes and tie onto a lolly stick.

Ramadan Cards

Cut crescent and star shapes into a potato and let the children use them to print onto card to make a Ramadan card finish the card with the message " **Ramadan Mubarak**".

Magic Stars



Draw stars on white card using white crayons, and then mix $\frac{3}{4}$ powder paint to $\frac{1}{4}$ water. Let the children paint over the paper

and watch their faces light up in surprise as the stars appear.

Other activities

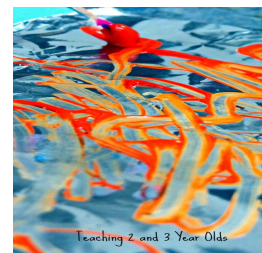
Bubble Wrap Painting



This is a great activity for the summer which will develop the children's gross motor skills. Lay

sheets of paper on the floor (Lining paper is good for this). Wrap pieces of bubble wrap round the child's feet, secure with sellotape. Using a paint brush and different coloured paints, paint the underneath of the child's foot. (You only need a small amount of paint). Let the children stomp or jump on the paper. Please note adult supervision is required with this activity!

Foil Painting



This is a fantastic sensory activity as the foil surface is so slick the paint seems to dance across it reflecting the light in the room. Line trays

with foil (small cat litter trays are good for this). Pour tempera paint into a bowl and add a generous squirt of washing up liquid. Let the children use paint brushes or to encourage fine motor skill development use cotton wool swabs. Develop children's sensory skills by encouraging them to use their fingers and hands to feel the paint and move it about. If you want to keep the

pictures I suggest you tape the foil onto paper first instead of using a tray.

The Button Snake



Learning to fasten buttons is a difficult skill for young children to learn. Make a simple button snake to help

the children learn to do buttons. The children will have lots of fun while developing their fine motor skills. Cut different coloured felt pieces into small squares. Using scissors make a slit in the centre of each square. Sew a button onto a large length of ribbon, making sure it will go through the slits. Slip one of the squares of felt onto the ribbon. Knot it in place to stop it coming off the end. The children can then thread the rest of the squares on to the snake by pushing the button through the slits.

Shaving foam paint



Try this really simple activity and watch how the children extend the play. Squirrt blobs of shaving cream into small bowls;

add a different coloured food colouring to each bowl. Mix and provide the children with brushes or spreaders and watch them enjoy this new experience.

When trying this activity at home with my granddaughter I provided her with a big sheet of thick paper and we made the paints in a tin foil muffin tin. She really enjoyed choosing the colour for each muffin and helping to mix it into the shaving foam. She spent quite a long time using her fingers and hands to paint and loved sliding her hands through the paint over the paper. The best bit was it was really easy to clean up afterwards!

TRAINING

Training Issues

BUFA have been fortunate enough to receive funding every year from which we have been able to put on the many varied trainings which the majority of groups have enjoyed and benefitted from at some time. At the moment this training is still free for Toddler groups.

The majority of our courses are oversubscribed and this means we have to restrict the number who can attend. During the last year we have had a number of students book on one of these courses and fail to turn up on the night, sometimes without any notification beforehand. This is frustrating when there are other people who might have benefitted from the place. It also does not look good to our funders if not all the places are taken. Please be aware that your actions could jeopardise future funding.

We do understand that there will always be emergencies. A phone call, email or text cancelling your place on a course as soon as you can (preferably not on the day of the course) should always be possible. Cancellation fees may apply if this is within 5 working days of the training taking place and we cannot fill the place. If not paid, it could affect your access to further training.

Training coming up

There are still places available on the forthcoming SCRAP MAGIC workshop (25th June) and don't forget to let us know if you are interested in attending a Paediatric First Aid course. Another one will take place in September.

Free Safeguarding Training.

BUFA has been funded to deliver more safeguarding training for Workforce Development. Please contact Workforce Development direct on 01274 434503 to book.

All these trainings take place at St Peter's House, Bradford.

- **Basic Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect**

Friday 12th June, 9.30 a.m-12.30 p.m.

- **Lead Practitioner training**
- **Combined Basic Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect and Lead Practitioner for Non-regulated Sector**

This training is aimed especially at volunteers and committee members. It is not as in depth as the other two courses but it provides opportunities for attendees to ask questions and seek clarification about issues.

Monday 13th July 2015 - 9.30 a.m - 12.30 p.m.

BUFA MEMBERS' SHOP

Open Hours: Any Reasonable Time!

You are welcome to come to the shop whenever you like now we operate 52 weeks of the year. BUT please ring the office on 01274-308725 beforehand to check there will be someone to help you.

Best availability continues to be MON-WED term time.

We sell lots of items for Toddler group crafts.

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Disclaimer: BUFA does not necessarily endorse all the views that are expressed in this newsletter.

Bradford Under Fives Association is a commissioned service for Bradford Early Childhood Services

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